International Auditor Fellowship Program Application

Please type all information.

Part I: To be completed by nominee

This form is used solely to apply to the International Auditor Fellowship Program. All personally identifiable information (PII) requested in this form is authorized under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Pub.L. 87-256, as amended, (codified as 22 U.S.C. 2451, et. seq). All PII collected will be used to verify your identity, determine your suitability for the program, support J1 Visa applications, and to authorize access to GAO facilities. PII can be disclosed to other GAO offices on a need to know basis in support of the program and when required by federal law. The PII fields are required in order to process your application. All other fields will assist in expediting your submission for processing. You will be provided an opportunity to review your application and request corrections during the adjudication process. If you have any questions or would like updates to your application, please contact us via email at IAFPCurriculum@gao.gov.

Part II: To be completed and signed by the Head of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI)

A complete package should include this application, TOEFL or IELTS score, a resume or CV, and a half-page written statement on the strategy topic (included in the application). Email complete package to IAFPcurriculum@gao.gov.

The Program Manager confirms all complete applications via email. If you do not receive a confirmation email within 72 hours of your submission, contact Mark Keenan at +1 202-512-8691 or KeenanM@gao.gov to identify the issue with your submission.

Purpose of the Program

The objective of the U.S. Government Accountability Office's (GAO) International Auditor Fellowship Program (IAFP) is to strengthen the capacity of supreme audit institutions (SAI) and to support the enhancement of accountability and governance worldwide.

Program Content

Fellows participate in classroom training, learn about U.S. intergovernmental auditing experience, and develop strategies to implement change within their respective SAIs. Participants are nominated by the leadership of their SAIs with the expectation that they will transfer the knowledge and skills gained to their institutions.

The IAFP consists of three major segments.

GAO Auditing Practices: Fellows will learn the technical and managerial aspects of performance audits and will be introduced to the policies, procedures, and practices at GAO. Although the primary focus is performance audit, fellows will explore a variety of audit techniques and approaches with an emphasis on knowledge and skills required to complete this type of work. Additionally, fellows will learn how GAO plans, manages, and communicates the results of its work. Fellows will also share information about the auditing practices of their SAIs.

Personal and professional development: Fellows will participate in various classes focused on leadership skills, effective facilitation, writing principles, and team building.

Cultural exchange: Fellows will participate in a number of cultural activities to learn more about U.S. culture and also share their home country culture with program staff and participants.

To the extent possible, fellows also participate in briefings with external organizations such as the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency and The World Bank.

Program Dates: The 2025 program begins April 2 and ends July 2. A typical day in the program will start around 8:30 am Eastern Time and finish around 4:30 pm. A lunch period is included in the daily schedule.

International Auditor Fellowship Program Nomination

Name (first, middle initial, family name)	**Gender**
	Male Female

Date of birth (month-day-year)	**Place of birth** (City and Country)

Country of citizenship	**Country of legal permanent residence**

Home address (please provide complete street address, including postal code)	**Name of SAI and address** (please provide complete mailing address, including postal code)

Primary telephone number Home Office Mobile	**Secondary telephone number** Home Office Mobile

Primary email address Home Office	**Secondary email address** Home Office

Education

Name of University	Level of Degree/Certificate	Date Awarded (month-day-year)	Major Field of Study

Other Significant Training

Please list names, dates, and locations of any applicable training programs attended. (If more space is required, please attach additional pages.)

Name of Training Program	Date Completed (month-day-year)	Location of Training

English Language Skills

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is required to participate in this program. Applicants **must** submit an official copy of the test scores with their application package. The total minimum score required for participation in the program is 550 (paper-based) or 80 (internet-based) for the TOEFL exam, and an overall band score of 6.5 for the IELTS.The TOEFL exam requirement can be waived for applicants who can demonstrate more than 1 year of full -time studies in English within the past 3 years or applicants from countries where the official language is English. Any applicant that submits an equivalent language test or receives a waiver from the program may be interviewed via video conference to confirm their proficiency level. If you have questions or concerns on the language requirement, please email the IAFP Team at IAFPCurriculum@gao.gov.

Resume of Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Please submit your resume or CV with the application package. The format of your resume/CV is at your discretion but should include the following information:
- Country and name of your Supreme Audit Institution
- The total number of years at your SAI
- Positions held with titles
- Start and end dates in each position
- Other relevant work experience

Expectations

GAO's Expectations

If accepted into the International Auditor Fellowship Program, each participant will
1. adhere to the Program's training schedule,
2. attend and participate in all sessions and meetings as established in the schedule,
3. complete all mandatory self-paced computer training sessions, and
4. submit all assigned projects.

Your Expectations

Please describe what you expect to gain by participating in this program. Consider including plans for applying the gained knowledge to your SAI after completing the program. (minimum 250 words, maximum 500 words).

Your Expectations (continued)

PART IIA: Approval of Capstone Project Proposal

Each participant selected is required to prepare a special capstone project in the form of a strategy paper during the course of the program. The strategy paper should describe what they expect to accomplish in their audit office as a result of their experience with GAO. Upon acceptance to the program, additional details on the structure and length of the strategy paper will be provided. There are no exceptions to this requirement. We request that the nominees work directly with the Head of the SAI and its leadership to identify a specific topic or area of interest the participant will introduce or champion upon his or her return. The topic or area of interest should relate to the program content. Some examples of topics selected by past participating fellows are "overlap, duplication, and fragmentation," "internal controls," and "effective report writing". As such, please avoid broad or generic topics such as "performance auditing". For additional information, topics covered during the program are listed below on this page. If applicable and to the extent practical, we also recommend you review your SAI's former fellows' strategy paper topics to ensure your topic is either unique or builds off of prior topics.

Potential Topics to be Covered During the 2025 International Auditor Fellowship Program

Each session provides the fellows with an "overview" of the topic and some practical applications. None of these sessions provide the fellows with all of the technical skills necessary to become an expert on a particular topic.

Orientation

Overview of GAO and the U.S. Federal System

      Skillsoft Demonstration
      Overview of various GAO Mission Teams, including the Science, Technology Assessment, and Analytics Team
      Overview of GAO's Center for Audit Excellence

Auditing Practices

      Audit Planning
      Real-time Auditing
      Evidence and Documentation Fundamentals
      Managing the Writing Process
      Report Writing and Reviewing
      Auditing for Fraud, Waste, and Abuse
      Performance Auditing
      Approach and Methodology Selection
      International Perspectives

Personal and Professional Development (Training and Management Topics)

      Effective Presentation Skills
      Inclusive Leadership
      Managing Yourself and Your Staff in a Changing Environment
      Starting and Maintaining High Performing Teams
      Strategic Planning
      Project Management

Applicant should provide a half-page written statement in the space below, describing why the chosen topic is important to the SAI and a plan for incorporating potential changes or advancing capacities in this area (minimum 250 words, maximum 500 words).

Strategy Paper Topic Selected:

Approval

SAI Head name (print first, middle, last)	**Date**

Full address (please provide complete street address, including postal code)

SAI Head signature	**Date**

Part IIB: Recommendation by the Head of the Supreme Audit Institution
This section to be completed by the Auditor General or his/her designee.

What qualities does your nominee possess that led to his/her nomination?

How will the SAI ensure the nominee will have the opportunity to transfer the knowledge, skills, and experience obtained from participating in this program to other colleagues in the SAI?

Check the box to acknowledge awareness of the below information on funding needed to participate in the program:

There is no tuition required for the program. However, participating SAIs are responsible for securing required funding for salary, travel, insurance, and living expenses. For the 2024 program, the total estimated expenses for a single person in the United States ranged from *$26,250 to *$34,230.

*Not including salary and travel expenses

For those accepted into the program, GAO will require a letter from the applicant's SAI confirming anticipated funding. More details would be provided at that time.